



ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Overview of the Changes in 2014 Fine Arts Curriculum Framework

2008	2014
All disciplines and courses have different strands and content standards.	All disciplines and courses share four strands and eleven content standards, which reflect the organization of the new national arts standards.
Survey of Fine Arts includes both music and visual art standards and provides a 0.5 credit, entry level course.	SFA will be replaced by an appreciation course in each of the four arts disciplines to give students more choices at the entry level and a full semester of the discipline chosen. This will allow for more depth of content.
MUSIC	MUSIC
Fine Arts K-8 contains both music and visual art standards. Music strands include Skills and Techniques, Creative Expression, Critical Analysis, Connections.	General Music K-8 is separate from visual art framework. Strands are very similar to 2008 and include Creating, Performing, Responding, and Connecting.
Instrumental Performance 5-8 and Instrumental Music I-IV cover middle school/junior high band and high school band with the same strands as K-8.	Instrumental music has been broken out into Beginning Band I-IV and Beginning Orchestra I-IV providing frameworks for middle school/junior high band and Band I-IV , Orchestra I-IV , and Jazz Band I-IV providing specific standards for high school performing groups. The strands are similar to 2008.
	<p>New courses for 2014:</p> <p>Introduction to Band (an introductory course for students who enter the band program later than their peers)</p> <p>Music Appreciation provides a 0.5 credit course designed for students who do not wish to perform. Content emphasizes Responding and Connecting.</p> <p>Music Lab (including appendices for Piano and Guitar)</p> <p>Music Technology focus is on creating and sharing music through a broad variety of technologies. This course, while widely requested, may require technology, instructional materials, and professional development.</p>
VISUAL ART	VISUAL ART
Fine Arts K-8 contains both music and visual art standards. Visual Art strands include Foundations, Creative Processes, and Reflections and Responses.	Visual Art K-8 is separate from music framework. Strands include Creating, Presenting, Responding, and Connecting.
Visual Art I-IV contains only four levels of general art instruction.	Visual Art I-IV contains four levels of general art instruction as well as appendices for Drawing, Painting, Sculpture, and Printmaking . Some of these have prerequisites and multiple levels but all are separate courses with their own course codes. This provides a wider variety of entry-level courses for students.
Art History I and II are organized by time periods and AH I is the prerequisite for AH II.	Although the time periods are the same for 2014 Art History courses, the content is organized into Responding and Connecting strands. The I and II have been removed from the titles because the early history course is no longer a prerequisite for the more contemporary history course.

	New courses for 2014: Visual Art Appreciation provides a 0.5 credit course. Content emphasizes Responding and Connecting.
THEATRE	THEATRE
Theatre K-12 contains grade-banded SLEs organized into Creating, Reading, and Evaluating strands for all grades. This document was last revised in 1993.	Theatre K-8 is separate from the high school framework. Strands include Creating, Presenting, Responding, and Connecting.
Fine Arts Theatre—Course Goals are accepted as the Theatre I framework without submitting a course approval request, but this document will go away with new frameworks.	Theatre I-III will replace course goals. Content focuses on performance standards with technical theatre only included in Theatre I.
	Other new courses for 2014: Stagecraft I contains basic theatre competencies in both performance and technical theatre. Stagecraft II and III focus on technical theatre skills only. Theatre Appreciation provides a 0.5 credit course.
DANCE	DANCE
Dance K-12 contains grade-banded SLEs organized into Basic Elements of Movement, Arts in Civilization, and Artistic Communications strands for all grades. This document was last revised in 1993.	Dance K-8 is separate from the high school framework. Theatre I-III will replace the 9-12 grade band in the old document. Strands include Creating, Presenting, Responding, and Connecting.
	Other new courses for 2014: Dance Appreciation provides a 0.5 credit course.

Professional Development for the 2014 Fine Arts Framework

- **New standards have an increased emphasis on communication about artistic work and on collaboration. These areas should receive as much focus as artistic media and techniques in professional development.**
- **Disciplinary literacy is an extremely important focus area in professional development for fine arts teachers.**
- **The National Core Arts Standards (NCAS) were published in June 2014 and teachers have not yet had sufficient training in these new national standards.**
- **Administrators and counselors would benefit from staff development on the role arts education plays in schools. There is confusion regarding the definition and goals of arts education, Standards of Accreditation requirements for the arts, licensure, and many other issues.**